DEFINITIONS

TERM	DEFINITION
Acquisition Performance Measures	Measures that are used to monitor information concerning cost, schedule, and technical performance of IT investments.
Annual Performance Plan	A plan that defines operational accountability for implementation of the fiscal year's portion of the MHS IM/IT Strategic Plan. The plan identifies the specific performance targets and measures that will be used to determine accomplishment and completion of tasks.
Baseline	A set of data that reflects the state of a process, system, or product prior to the implementation of any improvement initiatives.
Customers	Defined as users of the IM/IT Program products, including employees and beneficiaries of TRICARE programs. Views regarding function needs are sought through Service Representatives, typically via the Program Review Board, the Optimization Team, or the Theater Functional Working Group
Corporate Performance Measures	Measures that are used to address the performance of the IM/IT Program from an internal management and oversight perspective.
Information Technology	With respect to an executive agency, any equipment or interconnected system or subsystem of equipment, this is used in the automatic acquisition, storage, manipulation, management, movement, control, display, switching, interchange, transmission, or reception of data or information by the executive agency. The term includes computers, ancillary equipment, software, firmware and similar procedures, services (including support services) and related resources.
Input Measure	Evaluates what resources or activities are required to achieve an objective
Life Cycle	All phases of a system, including planning, acquisition, operations, maintenance, and disposal.

Measure	Define how to determine achievement of or progress toward the objectives.
Mission	An enduring statement of purpose, which describes "what" the organization does (functions, products and services), "who" it supports (the customers and clients) and "how" it is accomplished (the activities, technology, methods and processes). Reflects the overarching critical activities of the organization
Mission (Results-Based) Measure	Measures that address results, service quality, customer satisfaction, and overall effectiveness in accomplishing the organizational mission.
Mission Needs Statement (MNS)	Identifies and describes the mission deficiency, discusses the results of the mission area analysis, describes why non-material changes (i.e. doctrine, tactics, etc.) are not adequate to correct the deficiency; identifies potential material alternatives; and describes any key boundary conditions and operation environments that may impact satisfying the need.
Mission Performance	The accomplishment of program or agency goals and desired results.
Objective	A statement of the general condition or desired result to be achieved within a specified time (e.g., "work safely").
Outcome Measures	Measure the actual results of a system or program.
Output Measures	Measure the level of work or services provided to achieve an objective.
Performance Management	The use of performance measurement information to effect positive change in organization culture, systems and processes, by helping to set agreed-upon performance goals, allocating and prioritizing resources, informing managers to either confirm or change current policy or program directions to meet those goals, and sharing results of performance in pursuing those goals.

Performance Measurement System	The organized means of defining, collecting, analyzing, reporting, and making decisions regarding all performance measures within a process.
Performance Measure(s) or Performance Metric	A parameter useful for determining the degree to which an organization has achieved its goals. Also, a quantifiable expression used to observe and track the status of a process. Also, the operational information that is indicative of the performance or condition of a facility, groups of facilities, or site.
Performance Objective	The type of beneficial change or impact to operations is desired as the outcome of conducting the activity. Normally, the desired outcome is described by showing this change as an increase or a decrease to the current level. When the activity is to sustain IT, the performance objective normally indicates an objective to enhance current operations with appropriate support.
Performance Target	Represents a specific and measurable amount of change that the Program Office plans to achieve by a certain time.
Planning, Programming and Budgeting System	The DoD resource allocation system used to identify mission needs, match the needs with resource requirements and translate the resource requirements into budget requests.
Process	A series of value-added tasks that linked together to turn input into a product or service output
Stakeholders	Individuals and groups who establish or influence the budget and issue or influence policy and direction for your project or organization. Executive level leaders who provide the overall MHS and DoD direction for the IM/IT Program as reflected in driving documents. The group approves the final version of the MHS IM/IT Strategic Plan. Includes the Assistant Secretary of Defense, MHS CIO, Service Surgeons General, and Service CIOs

Strategic Planning	A process for helping an organization envision what it hopes to accomplish in the future, identify and understand obstacles and opportunities that affect the organization's ability to achieve that vision, and set forth the plan of activities and resource uses that will best enable the achievement of the goal objectives
Strategic Objectives	Broad statements of aim or purpose. Strategic objectives are not directly measurable and can be used to group general goals.
Strategic Principles	Define the philosophy and values of the organization as it sets and carries out its strategic direction.
Strategies	The processes, skills, technologies, and various resources and methods that will be used to achieve the general goals